

Deacon Edward Taylor House
9 Thomas Street
Providence
Providence County
Rhode Island

HABS No. RI-243

HABS
RI,
4-PROV,
8-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

DEACON EDWARD TAYLOR HOUSE

HABS
RI,
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8-

Address: 9 Thomas Street, Providence, Providence County,
Rhode Island.
Plat 10, Lot 52.

Present Owner
and Occupant: Providence Art Club

Present Use: Club house and Oakes Art Supply Store on first
floor.

Brief Statement
of Significance: This is a medium-sized frame house built in the
1780's

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners:

- 1784 James Angell sells to Benjamin and Edward Taylor for \$875 land bounded as follows: beginning at SW corner extends E 75' bound southerly on a lane of 30' wide leading from the Main St. to the Back St. and N 75' to land of Nathan Angell holding the the breadth of 75' for 90 odd feet bound E and W on land of James Angell Esq. - Deed Book 21, page 142, in Providence City Hall.
- 1786 Benjamin to Edward Taylor, one half of the afore-said lot of land is conveyed. Edward now owns the whole lot and has built upon it. - Deed Book 21, page 396, in Providence City Hall.
- 1833 Alice Clark appointed Administratrix for Edward. Wills Book in Providence City Hall.
- 1837 Alice Clark conveys property to Edward T. Clark: for \$100, 1/30 of estate on Thomas Street where I now live, the lot being bounded as follows by deed from James Angell to Benjamin and Edward Taylor. - Deed Book 71, page 207, in Providence City Hall.
- 1873 Franklin C. Clark (heir of E. T. Clark) for \$1.00 reconveyed 1/30 part of aforesaid property. - Deed Book 199, page 208, in Providence City Hall.

- 1884 Joseph Carpenter, executor of the will of Alice Clark for \$9,000 sells the land to Franklin C. Clark. The land is mortgaged to J. C. Brown for \$1,000 at this time. - Deed Book 326, page 256 in Providence City Hall.
- 1884 Franklin C. Clark in turn sells the land to Ann Eliza Carpenter for \$9,000, still mortgaged. Deed Book 326, page 257, in Providence City Hall.
- 1900 Ann Eliza Carpenter sells the land to Alice T. Utley, wife of Albert G. Utley "being the same estate which descended to the late Alice Clark - as heir of her father Edward Taylor" Part of this land is leased to Sidney R. Burleigh.--Deed Book 332, page 368, in Providence City Hall.
- 1906 Alice T. Utley sells this property to the Providence Terminal Co. for \$10 subject to Sidney Burleigh lease. - Deed Book 481, page 21, in Providence City Hall.
- 1907 Providence Terminal Co. sells to NYNH&H RR Co. the property granted to the Prov. Terminal Co. by Alice T. Utley is listed with many others as being now conveyed to NYNH&H RR Co. - Deed Book 485, page 183, in Providence City Hall.
- 1908 NYNH&H RR Co. sells to M. E. Lynch for \$100 land described as follows: N side of Thomas St. 157.79' E from NE Corner of Thomas and No. Main St marks the SE corner of lot, then N 78.23', W 44', 74.55' to Thomas St. and E along Thomas 45'. - Deed Book 492, page 249. This is one half of the originally described lot, the other half is sold at the same time to Sidney Burleigh. - Deed Book 500, page 37, in Providence City Hall.
- 1913 Property taxed to Elizabeth L. Willard and Sarah M. Ettinger who are appointed executrices in Rhode Island. - Wills Book 122, page 497, in Providence City Hall.
- 1915 Elizabeth L. Willard and Sarah M. Ettinger sell the same land described under year 1908 for \$1.00 to Sarah Watson: N. side of Thomas St. 157.79' E from NE Corner of Thomas and No. Main St. marks the SE corner of lot. Then N 78.23', W 44', 74.55' to Thomas St. and E along Thomas 45'. - Deed Book 552, page 306, in Providence City Hall.
- 1921 Sarah Watson sells this same property to the Pen and Pencil Club for \$10.00. - Deed Book 604, page 380, in Providence City Hall.

- 1925 The Pen and Pencil Club of Rhode Island sells to S. O. Metcalf for \$10.00. - Deed Book 677, page 424, in Providence City Hall.
- 1926 S. O. Metcalf sells this property to The Providence Post of the American Legion No. 1 for \$10. - Deed Book, in Providence City Hall.
- 1941 The Providence Post of the American Legion No. 1 sells to W. B. Spooner: land beginning 157.79' easterly from NE Corner of No. Main on N side of Thomas St. at SE corner of land herein described and SW corner of Providence Art Club N 90.18' interior angle 78.23', W 44' S bounded westerly on Burleigh land 74.55' to Northerly line of Thomas St. E 45' to point of beginning. - Deed Book 838, page 34, in Providence City Hall.
- 1949 W. B. Spooner Jr., survivor of his wife sells to Dexter Pyper and wife Kathryn this same property. Deed Book 948, page 4, in Providence City Hall.
- 1961 Dexter Pyper and wife Kathryn C. sell to the Providence Art Club the land beginning at the North line of Thomas St 157.79' east of NE Corner of No. Main St. and Thomas St. - at SE corner of land herein described and at SW corner of other land of this grantee formerly of Sydney F. Adams; N bounded E on said other land of grantee 78.23' to a point 3' South measured at right angles from the South line of location of NYNH&H RR Co. thence W parallel with and 3' South from Southerly line of said location 44' to other land of said grantee thence S 74.55' to N line of Thomas St. thence E along Thomas St. 45' to point of beginning. - Deed Book 1111, page 739, in Providence City Hall.

2. Date of erection: 1784-1786.
3. Notes on alterations and additions: East side is now blank where it is believed windows were removed.
4. Sources of information: HABS Inventory prepared by John Hutchins Cady, November, 1956.

John Hutchins Cady, The Civic and Architectural Development of Providence 1636-1950 (Providence, Rhode Island: The Book Shop, 1957), pp. 64, 66.

George Leland Miner, Angell's Lane, The History of a Little Street in Providence (Providence: Akerman-Standard Press, 1948).

Prepared by Antoinette F. Downing and Natalie Saltonstall
for the Providence Preservation Society
May 1962

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: This is a typical, medium-sized, frame house from 1780's with interesting wood detail.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: Five-bay house, 33'x33'; two-and-a-half stories.
2. Foundations: Stone, regular ashlar with window on lower west side of house.
3. Wall construction: Clapboard walls, framed with corner boards, base, and frieze of another color. The frieze board is interrupted by frames around the windows.
4. Stoops: Entrance stoop with three steps.
5. Chimneys: Two interior chimneys, brick.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Ionic frontispiece with fluted pilasters, pulvinated frieze, pediment with modillion cornices. Six-panel wood doors.
 - b. Windows: Six over six light double hung windows, splayed lintel with molded wood keyblock.
7. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof with modern asphalt shingles.
 - b. Cornice: Molded box cornice with denticulated bed mold.

C. Technical Description of Interior

1. Floor plans: Central hall, four-room plan. Long central hall extends to large room in rear. Similar plan upstairs on second and third floors.
2. Stairways: Steep stairway with molded handrail, corner posts, and shadow rail which now has a later handrail; turned balusters.
3. Flooring: Wide wood floor boards
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plastered walls and ceiling with paneled, plaster wainscoting in all downstairs rooms.
5. Doors and doorways: Eight-panel doors, with two large and two small panels on each half. Simple molded doorways.
6. Trim: Molded cornices and wainscot in all rooms. Molded window frames; heavy square pilaster in hall.
7. Hardware: Modern iron and brass door knobs; remains of old iron hinge on front door.
8. Lighting: Electric
9. Heating: Central with radiators. Paneled one-story mantels on fireplaces in all rooms; simple, molded with dentil pattern on cornice of mantels in two front rooms.

- D. Site: House faces south situated on sidewalk line at the front, small lot with only narrow passageways at the sides.

Prepared by Natalie Saltonstall for the Providence
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